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Portland, Oregon 97204-2089

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

## DISTRICT OF OREGON

## PORTLAND DIVISION

BROADCAST MUSIC, INC.; MJ
PUBLISHING TRUST, dba MIJAC
MUSIC; UNIVERSAL - SONGS OF
POLYGRAM INTERNATIONAL, INC.;
EMI VIRGIN SONGS, INC., dba EMI
LONGITUDE MUSIC; MUSCLE SHOALS
SOUND PUBLISHING CO., a division of
NORTHSIDE PARTNERS; PEERMUSIC
III LTD.; LOST BOYS MUSIC; EMI
BLACKWOOD MUSIC INC.; and
STURGEON,

Plaintiffs,

v.

PALA INVESTMENT, LLC, dba BARREL ROOM; and STEPHEN BERGER,

Defendants.

Civil No.: 3:13-cv-1037

**COMPLAINT** 

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Plaintiffs, by their attorneys, for their Complaint against Defendants, allege as follows

(on knowledge as to Plaintiffs; otherwise on information and belief):

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE** 

1. This is a suit for copyright infringement under the United States Copyright Act

of 1976, as amended, 17 U.S.C. Sections 101 et seq. (the "Copyright Act"). This Court has

jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1338(a).

2. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1400(a).

THE PARTIES

3. Plaintiff Broadcast Music, Inc. ("BMI"), is a corporation organized and

existing under the laws of the State of New York. BMI's principal place of business is 7

World Trade Center, 250 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10007. BMI has been

granted the right to license the public performance rights in approximately 7.5 million

copyrighted musical compositions (the "BMI Repertoire"), including those which are alleged

herein to have been infringed.

4. The Plaintiffs other than BMI are the owners of the copyrights in the musical

compositions, which are the subject of this lawsuit. All Plaintiffs are joined pursuant to Fed.

R. Civ. P. 17(a) and 19(a).

5. Plaintiff MJ Publishing Trust is a Trust d/b/a Mijac Music. This Plaintiff is

the copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

6. Plaintiff Universal – Songs of Polygram International, Inc. is a corporation.

This Plaintiff is the copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

7. Plaintiff EMI Virgin Songs, Inc. is a corporation d/b/a EMI Longitude Music.

This Plaintiff is the copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

Plaintiff Muscle Shoals Sound Publishing Co. is a division of Northside

Partners, which is a partnership, owned by Thomas J. Couch, Stewart M. Madison and

Gerald B. Stephenson. This Plaintiff is the copyright owner of at least one of the songs in

this matter.

8.

9. Plaintiff Peermusic III Ltd. is a corporation. This Plaintiff is the copyright

owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

10. Plaintiff Lost Boys Music is a sole proprietorship owned by James Richard

Steinman. This Plaintiff is the copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

11. Plaintiff EMI Blackwood Music Inc. is a corporation. This Plaintiff is the

copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

12. Plaintiff Sturgeon is a partnership owned by Leslie E. Claypool, Timothy W.

Alexander and R.L. Lalonde III. This Plaintiff is the copyright owner of at least one of the

songs in this matter.

13. Defendant Pala Investment, LLC is a limited liability company organized and

existing under the laws of the state of Oregon, which operates, maintains and controls an

establishment known as Barrel Room, located at 105 Northwest 3rd Avenue, Portland,

Oregon 97209, in this district (the "Establishment").

14. In connection with the operation of the Establishment, Defendant Pala

Investment, LLC, publicly performs musical compositions and/or causes musical

compositions to be publicly performed.

15. Defendant Pala Investment, LLC has a direct financial interest in the

Establishment.

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16. Defendant Stephen Berger is a manager of Defendant Pala Investment, LLC

with primary responsibility for the operation and management of that limited liability

company and the Establishment.

17. Defendant Stephen Berger has the right and ability to supervise the activities

of Defendant Pala Investment, LLC and the Establishment.

**CLAIMS OF COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT** 

20. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1

through 19.

21. Plaintiffs allege eight (8) claims of willful copyright infringement, based upon

Defendants' unauthorized public performance of musical compositions from the BMI

Repertoire. All of the claims for copyright infringement joined in this Complaint are

governed by the same legal rules and involve similar facts. Joinder of these claims will

promote the convenient administration of justice and will avoid a multiplicity of separate,

similar actions against Defendants.

22. Annexed to this Complaint as Exhibit A and incorporated herein is a list

identifying some of the many musical compositions whose copyrights were infringed by

Defendants (the "Schedule"). The Schedule contains information on the eight (8) claims of

copyright infringement at issue in this action. Each numbered claim has the following eight

lines of information (all references to "Lines" are lines on the Schedule): Line 1 providing

the claim number; Line 2 listing the title of the musical composition related to that claim;

Line 3 identifying the writer(s) of the musical composition; Line 4 identifying the

publisher(s) of the musical composition and the plaintiff(s) in this action pursuing the claim

at issue; Line 5 providing the date on which the copyright registration was issued for the

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musical composition; Line 6 indicating the copyright registration number(s) for the musical

composition; Line 7 showing the date(s) of infringement; and Line 8 identifying the

Establishment where the infringement occurred.

23. For each musical composition identified on the Schedule, the person(s) named

on Line 3 was the creator of that musical composition.

24. For each work identified on the Schedule, on or about the date(s) indicated on

Line 5, the publisher(s) named on Line 4 (including any predecessors in interest), complied

in all respects with the requirements of the Copyright Act and received from the Register of

Copyrights Certificates of Registration bearing the number(s) listed on Line 6.

25. For each work identified on the Schedule, on the date(s) listed on Line 7,

Plaintiff BMI was (and still is) the licensor of the public performance rights in the musical

composition identified on Line 2. For each work identified on the Schedule, on the date(s)

listed on Line 7, the Plaintiff(s) listed on Line 4 was (and still is) the owner of the copyright

in the respective musical composition listed on Line 2.

26. For each work identified on the Schedule, on the date(s) listed on Line 7,

Defendants publicly performed and/or caused to be publicly performed at the Establishment

the musical composition identified on Line 2 without a license or permission to do so. Thus,

Defendants have committed copyright infringement.

27. The specific acts of copyright infringement alleged in the Complaint, as well

as Defendants' entire course of conduct, have caused and are causing Plaintiffs great and

incalculable damage. By continuing to provide unauthorized public performances of works

in the BMI Repertoire at the Establishment, Defendants threaten to continue committing

copyright infringement. Unless this Court restrains Defendants from committing further acts

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**COMPLAINT** 

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of copyright infringement, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable injury for which they have no

adequate remedy at law.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray that:

(I) Defendant, their agents, servants, employees, and all persons acting under their

permission and authority, be enjoined and restrained from infringing, in any manner, the

copyrighted musical compositions licensed by BMI, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. Section 502;

(II) Defendant be ordered to pay statutory damages, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. Section

504(c);

(III) Defendant be ordered to pay costs, including a reasonable attorney's fee,

pursuant to 17 U.S.C. Section 505; and

(IV) Plaintiffs have such other and further relief as is just and equitable.

DATED: June 19, 2013

BULLIVANT HOUSER BAILEY PC

By \_/s/ Laura Caldera Taylor

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